

June 12, 1996

BOOK BUSINESS by Henrietta Thompson, Ashley County Librarian

The open house held to honor Maxine Carpenter and June Linder on their retirement was a great success and a very happy occasion. 175 people came by to express their thanks and good wishes to the honorees.

The affair was organized by Mary Barker, Dot Higginbotham, Ida Ann Veazey and Bettye Harbison. They provided the linens and glassware and some of the delicious food. Mary Ludlam, Imie Carpenter, Liz Foote, Bettejo Courson, Margaret Chambers and JoAnn Pugh also brought food. The spectacular fruit pyramid was the creation of Linda Jeffers. The punch was prepared by Ida Ann Veazey, and served by Patricia Malloy.

The splendid flower arrangement that centered the serving table was done by Sis Tyson with flowers given by Nancy and John Spivey, who also sent a basket of exquisite roses from his garden. Claire Rose Carpenter McCants sent a colorful mixed arrangement, Jo Linder Crow sent magnificent red roses, and Daisy Sue Bing, June's sister-in-law, sent two beautiful blooming plants. The elegant orchid corsages which June and Maxine wore came from Sally and Leon Evans.

Jean Linder Phillips and her husband David sent a donation to be used to purchase children's books in honor of June and Maxine. Other gifts were sent by Lily Hamm and Betty Hughes, and by Betty Timmons.

The guest books were given to Maxine and June by Bettye Harbison, Bettejo Courson and Laurin Smith. Bettejo did the fine calligraphic inscriptions.

Liz Foote photographed the festivities.

Others who helped to make this a successful event were Sheriff Billy Hudson and his office staff who printed the attractive announcements; the Ashley County Ledger, Ashley News Observer, and KAGH who provided advertising; and Mayor Boyce Harrod and Earl Benson who had the mowing and weed-eating done.

We want to extend a big thank you to everyone who attended, and to all those who helped in any way to make this a very special occasion for two very special ladies.

The party's over...and it's back to routine matters, such as cataloguing new books. One of the new novels we've added is Marcia Muller's latest Sharon McCone mystery, *The Broken Promise Land*, in which P.I. McCone heads into the dark side of the music business. Her brother-in-law, Ricky Savage, is the hottest country singer in the business. Professionally, he's on top; personally, he's hitting rock bottom: his marriage is breaking up, and he's getting anonymous threatening letters. Ricky's life and his career are in jeopardy, and if McCone can't find the stalker, Ricky's next Grammy-winning song about shattered hearts and broken promises may be his last.

Robert Jordan's *A Crown Of Swords* is the seventh book in *The Wheel Of Time* series. In this volume, Elayne, Aviendha and Mat come ever closer to the bowl *ter'angreal* that may reverse the world's endless heat wave and restore natural weather. Egwene begins to gather all manner of women who can channel; Rand faces the dread Forsaken Sammael; and, in the shadows of Shadar Logoth, where the blood-hungry mist, Mashadar waits for prey.

Ben Bova's *Brothers* begins at a corporate lab in Connecticut where researchers have pioneered an amazing genetic technique that can regenerate functioning organs inside the human body. The medical implications are staggering, and a "science court" has been convened in Washington, D.C. to decide whether or not the experiments should be allowed to continue. On opposite sides of the issue are two brothers. Dr. Arthur Marshak sees his work in organ regeneration as the crowning achievement of his career, and a momentous gift to mankind. Dr. Jessie Marshak, physician, humanitarian and idealist, sees the imperfect technique as unethical, elitist and dangerous. Standing between them is Julia Marshak, the woman who broke one brother's heart and married the other. Somehow, Arthur and Jessie must bridge the professional and personal gap that divides them.

There is still plenty of time to register for the Summer Reading Program, both in Hamburg and in Portland. To date, 39 children have registered. All children in the 1st through 6th grades are invited to participate, and may register at the library at any time during regular library hours.

Thanks to Rea Thomas and Jessica Givens for their book donations.
